

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1           1.     A method for auditing forms, the method comprising:  
2           issuing a request to provide a form identifier that is associated with a form;  
3           receiving the identifier at a host computer;  
4           verifying with the host computer whether the identifier is a valid identifier for  
5           the form being used;  
6           logging an error if the identifier is not valid.

1           2.     A method as in claim 1, wherein the request is issued from a terminal  
2           having a processor that is in communication with the host computer.

1           3.     A method as in claim 2, wherein the request is sent from the host  
2           computer to the terminal.

1           4.     A method as in claim 1, where the request is issued from a customer  
2           service operator over a phone.

1           5.     A method as in claim 2, wherein the identifier is received at the host  
2           computer from the terminal.

1           6.     A method as in claim 1, wherein the host computer includes an  
2           associated database, and wherein the identifier is verified by comparing the identifier with a  
3           list of valid identifiers in the database.

1           7.     A method as in claim 1, further comprising determining whether an  
2           appropriate form has already been ordered.

1           8.     A method as in claim 7, wherein if an appropriate form has not been  
2           ordered, placing an order for an appropriate form.

1           9.     A method as in claim 8, further comprising evaluating whether the  
2           ordered form is received by a user.

1           10.    A method as in claim 9, further comprising transmitting an identifier  
2           for a replacement form to the host computer.

11. A forms auditing system, comprising:  
a host computer; and  
a database associated with the host computer, the database having a record of a set of forms and a valid identifier for each of the forms;  
wherein the host computer is configured to receive an identifier in response to a request to audit a form, and to verify whether the identifier is a valid identifier for the audited form by comparing the identifier with the identifiers in the database, and to produce a record in the database of the comparison.

12. A system as in claim 11, further comprising a terminal having a processor, wherein the terminal is configured to receive the identifier of the form being audited and to electronically send the identifier to the host computer.

13. A system as in claim 12, wherein the terminal is configured to produce an audit screen having a region for inputting the identifier.

14. A system as in claim 13, wherein the terminal is configured to produce the audit screen based on information sent to the terminal from the host computer.

15. A system as in claim 11, wherein the host computer is configured to generate in error report if the identifier of the form being audited is not valid.